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"Faith gets us through the night when we're uncertain a dawn will come..."
"...it also gives the Bogeyman *bigger, bloodier* fangs."
Clark Kent, Daily Planet, Oct. 1999
TODAY... EVERYTHING CHANGES...
TODAY, RESPECT! TODAY, POWER! TODAY...
METROPOLIS BURNS!
THE SKY IS BURNING OVER THE CITY OF TOMORROW... WHERE BOTH THE FATALIST AND THE AGNOSTIC PREPARE FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE END...

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SO SAYS DOCTOR SPECTRO!!
...OF COURSE, IF THEY ONLY KNEW THE TRUTH...THEY'D PROBABLY JUST STAY IN BED.
I WISH I COULD SEE THEM...THE INSIGNIFICANT TOADS WHO SCOFFED AT MY BRILLIANCE...
WHO MOCKED MY HOLOGRAPHIC CREATIONS AND CHOICE OF DRESS...
SEE THEM SWOOON, OVER-COME WITH THE REALIZATION THAT I ABOVE ALL ELSE HAVE THE POWER...THE CUNNING... THE GUMPTION TO KILL--!
YOU'VE GRASPED THE SIGNAL CONCEPT, SPECTRO...
BUT GOTHAM IS A FEW MILES SOUTH OF HERE...
SUP--
AND YOU REALLY NEED TO WORK ON THE BAT PART.
CRACK WISE WHILE YOU CAN, "MAN OF TOMORROW," FOR TODAY, YOUR TOMOR-ROWS ARE AT AN END!!!
BEHOLD YOUR DOOM--BEHOLD...
KRYPTONITE!!!
HA HA HA HA HA
HAHoooHeh Heeooo
HO?
REALLY?
I...UH... OH, PLEASE... NOT THE FACE...

...NEVER-ENDING BATTLE...
JOE KELLY
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GERMAN GARCIA
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JOE RUBINSTEIN
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separations
JOHN COSTANZA
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EDDIE BERGANZA
editor
SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
ALL RIGHT...
SNAP
KRAKLE
SQUT
NOT THE FACE.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND... I EVEN RESERVED A PRIVATE ROOM AT THE CRYSTAL CLUB FOR A CELEBRATORY TEA THIS AFTERNOON...
THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE MY DAY... THE DAY DOCTOR SIVECTRO BECAME "THE MAN WHO KILLED SUPERMAN..."
KRUNCH
IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, YOU ARE "THE MAN WHO REALLY ANNOYED SUPERMAN" WITH YOUR LITTLE HOLOGRAM STUNT...
BUT, KILL ME? YOU'D NEED A LOT MORE THAN A LEAD BOX AND A ROCK SPRAYED WITH PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT FOR THAT!
SPRAY PAINT? DEAR LORD...
I MEAN, IT'S NOT RADIOACTIVE... IT'S NOT CRYSTALLINE... AND LOOK, SEE? THE PAINT IS FLAKING OFF RIGHT HERE...
IT WAS THAT MORMAN! THAT LATIN LOTHARIO!
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAVE MADE YOU THINK THAT THIS WAS THE REAL ITEM--?
SHE SWINDLED ME, I SAY!! SWITCHED THE TRUE KRYPTONITE FOR THAT ERSATZ PAPERWEIGHT!!!
I'LL-- I'LL... I'LL HAUL HER INTO COURT, I WILL!!
SPECTRO, WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT--
SUPERMAN!! YOUR TIME IS UP!!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME...
SO SPEAKS THE CLOCK KING!!!
LOOKIT HIM! HE'S SWEATIN' BIG TIME!
HEY... HOW COME HE AIN'T GRINSIN' IN PAIN, LIKE THE LADY SAID?
MAYBE HE FEINTS, THEN CRINGES... I WANT HIS CAPE WHEN HE CROAKS.
EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR. ...THIS SHOULD ONLY TAKE A SECOND...
HOW DO YOU FAINT THEN CRINGE, YOU DOPE?
MAKE THAT HALF A SECOND..

...IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, THE FIRE IN THE SKY BLEW OUT OVER AN HOUR AGO, LOIS. THE TRAIL UP HERE IS COLD.
AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE THE E.I.C., PERRY... THAT UNCANNY NEWS HOUND SIXTH SENSE...
I'M TAKING MY UN-COFFEE BREAK. A LUNGFUL OF METROPOLIS INSTEAD OF THREE CUPS OF BLACK NO SUGAR.
CLARK'S ON AN EVILS OF CAFFEINE KICK... SOMETHING ABOUT HIS WIFE BEING "HIGH STRUNG"-- GO FIGURE.
CLARK... I THOUGHT SO. I WARNED YOU TWO THAT HIS NEW POSITION AS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT COULD BE A STRAIN ON THE MARRIAGE.
IT'S JUST THREE MORE DAYS IN JAPAN, RIGHT?
YUP. THREE DAYS. IT'S TOUGH, BUT WE'RE MANAGING... WE HAVE A SYSTEM... E-MAIL... CELL PHONES... YOU KNOW..
IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE'S RIGHT HERE WITH ME.
GOOD... THAT'S GOOD, LOIS... BUT IF IT GETS TOUGH, YOU KNOW WHERE MY OFFICE IS.
WHENEVER YOU'RE READY, GYPSY HAS THE KRYPTONITE REFERENCE ON YOUR DESK.
THOUGHT YOU WERE IN JAPAN...
I AM... BUT I NEEDED A LOIS BREAK.
MM-HMM... MORE LIKE A METROPOLIS BREAK...
... ANY LITTLE PRE-APOCALYPTIC EVENT AND YOU COME RUNNING.
YEAH, WELL... I THOUGHT YOU TRIED STIR-FRYING DINNER AGAIN--
OH, VERY FUNNY. YOU'D BETTER TAKE THAT SUPER-MOUTH OF YOURS AND KISS ME WITH IT, SMALLVILLE, BEFORE I FORGET WHY I MISSED YOU.

SO, WERE YOU SCARED?
OF DR. SPECTRO? OF COURSE NOT. THE MAN RIDES A BICYCLE FOR PETE'S SAKE--
YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
THE ROCK.
KRYPTONITE.
OH...
It's hard to say... something like KRYPTONITE... OVER TIME, YOU SORT OF DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP WITH IT...
Ever since Pa told me that I wasn't of this earth, I knew that it was OUT there...
Since then, it's ALWAYS been in the back of my mind that an object exists out there, that can KILL me flat...
And there are PEOPLE out there who would use it at any cost...
BUT WAS I AFRAID..?
A fragment of my HOMEWORLD, the ONLY natural element in THE WORLD that could POISON me...
But it wasn't until METALLO revealed that kryptonite powered his cold HEART that I even had a NAME for the STUFF.
THE ONLY THING I'M EVER AFRAID OF WHEN I PUT ON THIS SUIT AND DO MY THING...
IS THAT I MIGHT NOT SEE YOU AGAIN.
OH, THAT WAS SMOOTH...NICE WAY TO AVOID THE QUESTION, GET ME ALL MISTY--
I THOUGHT SO...
HEY, I DID SOME DIGGING FOR YOU ON THE INTERNET, AND I MIGHT HAVE A LEAD ON THE MONKEY WHO SHOCKERED SPECTRO--
YOU CAN FOLLOW UP ON IT AFTER THE GALA-- YOU DID REMEMBER TO PACK YOUR GOOD SUIT, RIGHT?
OF COURSE..

AFTER A TWO-SECOND PIT STOP AT THE KENT CLOSET--
AND A FIVE-MINUTE CROSS-CONTINENTAL SUBSONIC FLIGHT...
JAPAN. THE OPULENT ESTATE OF ONE IVAN BLACKWELL, INDUSTRIALIST EXTRAORDINAIRE. SHOWMAN.
I'M A TRUE ADMIRER OF YOUR WRITING, KENT--YOUR FICTION AS WELL AS YOUR NEWSPAPER WORK--
--TRUE THAT YOU'RE WORKING ON ANOTHER NOVEL?
TRUE IF YOU CONSIDER TEN CHAPTERS IN AS MANY MONTHS "WORKING." I'M FOCUSING MY ENERGIES ON THE PLANET RIGHT NOW--
OF COURSE. A MAN MUST HAVE PRIORITIES, AND DISCIPLINE--
SPEAKING OF PRIORITIES, ONE OF YOURS IS THE CONTINUED STRENGTH OF JAPAN'S INFRASTRUCTURE... I TAKE IT TODAY'S CONFERENCE REGARDS THAT ISSUE?
YES... AND NO... THIS IS BIGGER... MUCH BIGGER, KENT. BE PATIENT... ALL WILL BE REVEALED SHORTLY.
"BE PATIENT"? HA.. IT'S ALL I CAN DO NOT TO SMASH THROUGH THE CEILING AND FOLLOW UP ON LOIS'S LEAD!
IF SOMEONE IS GOING AROUND HACKING FALSE KRYPTONITE, THEY NEED TO BE SHUT DOWN IMMEDIATELY--
--OR ELSE EVERY WANNA-BE DOOMSDAY WILL BE GUNNING FOR SUPERMAN WITH A SPRAY-PAINTED ROCK." THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE ALONE COULD BE DEVASTATING--
FRIENDS, GUESTS... IF I MAY HAVE YOUR ATTENTION... I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN.
THEY SAY ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS... SO ALLOW ME TO ACT FIRST, DRAWING BACK THIS SIMPLE SHROUD TO REVEAL--
?!?
KRYPTONITE!

YES... I HAVE COME INTO POSSESSION OF THE ONE MATERIAL THAT CAN EFFECTIVELY DESTROY THE ALIEN, SUPERMAN...
WHO VERY NEARLY ENSLAVED US ALL EARLIER THIS YEAR WHEN HE PROCLAIMED HIMSELF KING OF THE WORLD..
DELICIOUS... POSITIVELY DELICIOUS...
METROPOLIS WAS TOO SHOWY... TOO OBVIOUS... BUT THIS...
THIS IS CLASSY... UNDERSTATED STYLE...
HE'LL COME.
--AND I INTEND TO USE IT AS THE CORNERSTONE OF AN ANTI-METAHUMAN CAMPAIGN FOCUSED ON MY BELOVED JAPAN...
OUCH... RIGHT IN THE GUT.
I FORGET SOMETIMES THAT SO MANY PEOPLE ARE STILL SUSPICIOUS OF ME FOR--
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
KRASH
<FILTHY THIEF! YOU WILL DO NO SUCH THING-- INSTEAD, YOU WILL BE LIVELIHOOD THAT ILL-GOTTEN ROCK TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER--!>
<SO COMMANDS, ISHI-SAN! YOU-- THE STONE EMPEROR!!!>*
GOOD LORD!
* <Translated From Japanese> --Ed

(BACK AWAY FROM MY PROPERTY, CAPITALIST, OR MY GRANITE NINJAS WILL REND YOU LIMB FROM LIMB!!)
(WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!? I PURCHASED THE KRYPTONITE MYSELF.)
COLLATERAL DAMAGE EXHIBIT A... -SIGH- MAN, IT'S TOUGH BEING RIGHT... ALL THE TIME...
(YOU PURCHASED STOLEN PROPERTY, NO DOUBT FROM THE SAME TROLLOP WHO DECEIVED AND THEN ROBBED ME!)
(THE KRYPTONITE IS MINE!!!)
(I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS...)
SHRAKK
HNNGH!
(BUT YOU'VE BOTH BEEN HAD.)
THWOK
ARRGH!
(AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THAT DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO TERRORIZE INNOCENT PEOPLE IN THEIR HOMES...)
(... WELL, ESSENTIALLY INNOCENT PEOPLE.)
S-SUPERMAN? I-
SAVE IT.

(YOU RIGHTEOUS FOOL! YOU ARE NOT IN AMERICA ANY LONGER, FACING OFF AGAINST HER INFERIOR RABBLE!
(YOU STAND IN THE HEART OF JAPAN AGAINST HER FAVORITE SON, DEFILING HER LANGUAGE WITH YOUR FORKED GAIJIN TONGUE!!!)
(CRUCIFY HIM!!!)
FA HOM
TINKLE
PLINKLE
???
KLINK
(ANIMATED ROCK... CUTE.)
(WHAT'S NEXT...? CHIHO DEY?)
(THIS... I...)
(I WAS NOT... PREPARED... FOR... TOO SOON...)
(HE WILL MEET AGAIN, CAPE... AND YOU WILL KNOW MY WRATH.)
(AND WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE--?)
PFAFFSSSS
OOOKAY--
VERY WELL DONE, SUPER-NOVHO... I LOVE A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO USE HIS HANDS... CREATIVELY...
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

...THOUGH IT WOULD BE BETTER, I THINK...IF YOU'D USE THEM ON ME INSTEAD.
LA ENCANTADORA HAS BEEN A BAD, BAD GIRL.
YOU DON'T SAY..
THAT'S HER, SUPERMAN! SHE'S THE ONE--!
IS THAT TRUE, MISS? ARE YOU THE ONE WHO'S BEEN... CAUSING... TROUBLE?
THIS? THIS IS NOTHING...YOU WANT TO SEE TROUBLE, TAKE A PEEK WITH THOSE PIERCING BLUE X-RAY EYES OF YOURS...
THIS DRESS ISN'T LEAD, YOU KNOW...
WHAT!? NO.. I WOULDN'T--
YOU WILL
LOOK, ENCANTADORA--
DOVER, PLEASE--
LOOK, LADY, THIS "KRYPTONITE" RACKET YOU'RE RUNNING IS DANGEROUS. PEOPLE ARE GETTING HURT. YOU NEED TO STOP--
"RACKET"? QUERIDO, I'M NO CON ARTIST, I'M A BUSINESS WOMAN SELLING QUALITY GOODS AT A REASONABLE PRICE...
WOULD YOU CARE TO INSPECT MY GOODIE BAG?
NICE TRY, BUT I ALREADY KNOW YOUR "KRYPTONITE" IS A FAKE.
THAT BOX ISN'T... EVEN... LEAD?

HAAAKGCH!!
ONE THING YOU SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER, TESORO... EVERYTHING ABOUT ME IS REAL--
THE ROCK IS AUTHENTIC.
TAKE A GOOD LOOK, KIDS! HALF A SECOND OF EXPOSURE, AND BIG BLUE SHRINKS...
THE BIDDING STARTS AT TEN MILLION, TIJUANA, ONE HOUR. THOSE OF YOU IN THE KNOW, KNOW WHERE...
--NNNGH... PAIN...
I'M SORRY IT CAME TO THIS, SUPERMAN... I'D HOPED OUR FIRST MEETING WOULD BE MORE... INTIMATE.
BUT THOSE METROPOLIS IDIOTS JUMPED THE GUN--
: MGGH! STOP..
STOP? WHEN THE PARTY'S JUST STARTED, AMOR?
PFLOFF
MAKE ME.
WHOUF
: GASP : HFFF.. PFFF.. NFFF..
???
POP
CLICK CLICK
CLICK
WOULD YOU MIND...YFF...GETTING THAT THING OUT OF MY FACE, PLEASE...? : KBFF :
I SAID "PLEASE."

--THE SCENE TODAY IN JAPAN WHEN SUPERMAN FELL--
WHOA.
KRYPTONITE... GEEZ, WHO IS THIS BROAD?!?
OH MY GOD... IT'S REAL... IT'S REAL AND SHE ALMOST--
ALMOST TOOK THE BIG MAN OUT... AND EVERY CHARACTER WITH A GRUDGE AND A PV JUST SAW HER DO IT!
IF ANY ONE OF SUPERMAN'S ENEMIES--
I KNOW, JIMMY... I KNOW BUT WE CAN'T THINK ABOUT IT, WE HAVE TO FOCUS. TEAR THE WORLD APART UNTIL WE FIND HER...
I'M SURE THAT'S WHAT HE'S DOING... TRYING TO FOCUS...
THE FURIOUS SONIC BOOM LEFT IN SUPERMAN'S WAKE DOES LITTLE TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURE HE FEELS IN HIS CHEST, THE CLENCH IN HIS JAW--
OR THE CONSTANT LOOP OF MEMORY SCREAMING WITH ACID PAN PRICKS OF KRYPTONITE POISONING.
NO TIME... NO TIME TO SHIELD MYSELF. NO TIME TO COMFORT ANYONE FOR HELP... NO TIME... TO TELL LOIS... HOLD HER--
A PAIN SO HAUNTING, SO PARTICULAR A STRIKE THROUGH HIS ALIEN HEART... IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE EVEN A MAN OF STEEL DESPAIR.
NO. IT'S NOT GOING THAT WAY. LA ENCANTADORA CLEARLY DOESN'T WANT TO KILL ME... SHE'S PRAYING ME TO ATTRACT "BUYERS." IF THAT'S HOW SHE WANTS IT...
GAME ON.

TIJUANA
RIDDLE ME THIS, 'DORA! HOW MANY DEAD PRESIDENTS DOES IT TAKE TO KILL A GOD? HOW 'BOUT ELEVEN MILLION OF THEM?!?
ATION CAN MATCH ANY PRICE, ENCANTADORA... WE INSIST YOU TAKE OUR BID--
I AIN'T GOT ALL DAY, TOOTS, AN' YAPPY'S GIVIN' ME A HEADACHE. NAME THE PRICE...
BOYS, BOYS... PLEASE... LET'S GET HOLD OF OURSELVES--
--AND DISCUSS THIS TRANSACTION LIKE... CONSENTING ADULTS--
RASSSH
WHOOLEF!!!
HNNGH!
OKAY, CLARK--TIME TO PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOMENTUM IS, SO POUR IT ON--
--GOT ABOUT THREE SECONDS BEFORE ENCANTADORA REALIZES WHAT'S HAPPENING--
--HER SYNARSES FIRE AND SHE THINKS TO OPEN THAT BOX--
?!QUE?!
GOT YA!
SSSSHH
AND... GONE! WELL ON ITS WAY BACK TO DEEP SPACE.
I... I KNEW YOU WERE FAST.. BUT... THAT... AND TO FIND ME, YOU SCANNED EVERY BUILDING IN TIJUANA IN MINUTES?
I'VE HAD MEN WORK HARD TO GET TO ME... BUT THAT'S RIDICULOUS, SUPERMAN.
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF. THE RIDDLER PARKED A GREEN AND PURPLE VAN OUTSIDE. NEON WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SUBTLE.
IT'S OVER, ENCANTADORA.

OH NO, CARAÑO... YOU BREAK IT, YOU BUY IT... THAT INCLUDES LAUNCHING MY MERCHANDISE INTO ORBIT.
BUT SINCE I HOPE YOU'LL BECOME A REPEAT CUSTOMER, I'LL CONSIDER IT EVEN...
NO THANKS... I--KEEP-- YOUR-- YOUR CHOKER--
FOR A KISS, JUST ONE KISS.
WHAT, THIS OLD THING? IT'S JUST PAINTED KRYPTONITE... NOTHING SPECIAL.
SPANK MY BOTTOM AND CALL ME TURTLE BOY... THE MAN OF STEEL IS MELTING...
GRAGSCK! HOW... WHY DIDN'T I...FEEL--
MAYBE YOU WERE... DISTRACTED? I MAKE QUITE A BACKDROP.
ME FIRST! ME FIRST! GIVE PAIN IN THE NECK DESERVES ANOTHE--
...
WH-WHAT? I...I'M STILL INVULNERABLE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND... THE PAIN...
???
OH...OH... WHEN IS A CRIMINAL GENIUS LIKE A RUN-DOWN CLOCK? WHEN HE HAS BROKEN HANDS...HEH HEH... OH GOD...
I BELIEVE THAT CONCLUDES OUR BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT, GENTLEMEN... SO SORRY I CAN'T STAY FOR DESSERT...
...BUT I HAVE THINGS TO SEE, PEOPLE TO DO... IN SAN FRANCISCO.
ENCANTADORA!
HASTA LUEGO.
OUR MONEY!
FORGET THE MONEY.
RIDDLE ME THIS, BOYS... WHAT CAN VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS SPIKE AT A PARTY BUT NEED A GLASS TO CARRY?
ULP. PUNCH?
DON'T MIND IF I DO...

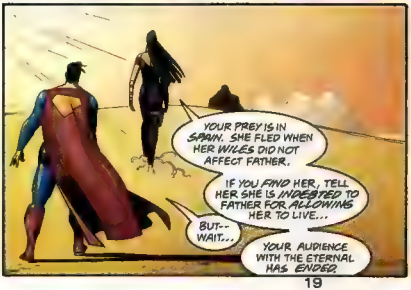
Metropolis
...WE HACKED IT, SURFED IT, AND JACKED IT FROM HERE TO BILL GATES'S BATH-ROOM, BUT THIS LIST OF GENERAL LOCATIONS WAS ALL WE COULD FIND ON THE 'NET.
SO FAR THEY SEEM TO CORRE-LATE WITH YOUR RUN-INS WITH ENCANTADORA, BUT WE CAN'T BE CERTAIN SHE'LL STICK TO THIS PATTERN--
SHE WILL. IT'S ALL PART OF THE GAME...
SUPERMAN. FAR BE IT FOR A MERE, MORTAL LIKE ME TO STICK MY NOSE INTO YOUR SUPER-BUSINESS...
BUT IF SHE'S GOT KRYPTONITE, DON'T YOU THINK THAT MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE SHOULD--
NO. THE WORLD-HOPPING, THE WAY I'M ONLY ALLEGEDLY AFFECTED BY THE KRYPTONITE...
THIS GAME IS SPECIFIC STUFF. SPECIFIC TO ME...
AND I INTEND TO FIND OUT WHY WE'RE PLAYING.
OKAY... JUST PROMISE ME--
SHOOSH
I WASN'T GOING TO SAY "PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE CAREFUL, MISTER 'LAST WORD MAN'"!
PROMISE ME YOU'LL CALL PERRY--HE EXPECTED YOUR WRITE-UP ON THE BLACKWELL ATTACK AN HOUR AGO...!
San Francisco...
ENJOY, LADIES! JUST LEAVE SOME FOR THE REST OF US TO PLAY WITH--IT'LL BE COLD IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE WITHOUT HIM!
LOOK AT HIM, BONNIE...HE'S SO...BIG. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HIM ON HIS KNEES--
INNUENDO ASIDE, BLUE, THIS IS NOTHING PERSONAL...WHOEVER DROPS SUPERMAN BECOMES NUMBER ONE ON THE HITTER'S PARADE. YOU UNDERSTAND.
NOW DROP OUT OF THE SKY ALREADY, SO WE CAN TIE YOU UP!
I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA.

STUPID.
MORON.
AMATEUR
TRAMP.
YOUR MOVE, ENCANTADORA... LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT.
HEAT VISION.. I AM NOT AMUSED.
The Arctic...
YOU. PADDLE.
YOU. CALL SWITZERLAND,.. CANCEL THAT TRANSFER... THEN SWIM HOME.
Y-YES, MR. SAVAGE...
...YOU CAN TEST IT RIGHT NOW!' I'LL BE JUST OVER HERE, SWEETUMS...
CHINA...
NEW YORK...
PLEASE TELL ME YOU WEREN'T UP HERE SHOP-PING--
NO, BATMAN SET UP THE MEETING. IF HE WASN'T SO BUSY, HE'D HAVE DONE IT HIMSELF. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO ATTACH A TRACER TO HER--
-- BUT A CERTAIN HORMONE FACTORY BLEW THE PLAN.
SUPERBOYYELLED "HELLONURSE" ANDSCARED-MEROFF. THOUSHITHINKITWAS MISCOLOGNE YOUNEEDASPEED-STERTOCATCHNER? I'VEB EENPRACTICINGAND--
TRUTH IS, I WAS JUST TOO MUCH MAN FOR HER, AND SHE SPLIT. HERE'S THE INTEL BATMAN SCARED UP FOR YOU...
SQ. ANY ROOM FOR YOUNG JUSTICE ON THIS ONE? 'CAUSE SERIOUSLY, BLUE...? THAT 'GORA REALLY IS A PIECE--
MAYBE NEXT TIME, GUYS. THANKS.
KWAT
DOOFUS.
WHATDIDIDO?
BOYS.
Metropolis...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT IF I HAD ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THERE WAS A LUMP OF KRYPTONITE SITTING ON THE AUCTION BLOCK...
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION?
MAYBE... MAYBE NOT, LUTHOR...
MERCY, SPEED UP.. WE HAVE A RUBBER-NECKER.
Berlin...
SCAVENGER--
BUT...IT'S SO POWERFUL... SO... RARE... SO...
USELESS...?
HOME...
PERRY, I KNOW CLARK PROMISED.. BUT YOU KNOW HOW HE GETS, ZIPPING ALL OVER THE WORLD--
SWOOSH
SMEK
HALF A MILE BELOW SEA LEVEL...
...PLEASURE DOING BUSINESS ...BY THE WAY...
IS IT TRUE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ATLANTEANS, OCEAN MASTER?
THAT WITCH! SHE SWINDLED ME--
REGARDING ...THE SIZE OF THE GILLS?
OH! HEY, LOOK AT THAT! SOMETHING'S COMING THROUGH THE FAX RIGHT NOW...
I'VE BEEN HEARING A LOT OF THAT TODAY...
:GLUB!
THIS IS INSANE! I'M PUSHING MYSELF TO THE LIMIT JUST TO KEEP UP WITH ENCANTADORA'S MEET AND GREETS--
I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH OF THIS I CAN--UH-OH!
Miami...
I GOT A MIND TO TEAR THAT PRETTY HEAD OFFA YOUR BODY, YOU FRAUD!!
NO! YOU-- YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!!
IN A SECOND, YOU WON'T BE EITHER, TOOTS!
FTASHH
'CAUSE WHAT-EVER MOJO YOU USED TO DUPE THE OTHERS DON'T WORK ON MEA-RRRGH!!!
WHAT?!? YOU!!
METALLO. I SEE YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON A NEW BODY-- BUT TRUST ME, NICE AS HERS IS, YOU DON'T WANT TO GET NEAR IT.
KRASSHA
THINK IT'S TIME TO CALL IT QUITS YET, ENCANTA-DORA? OR IS IT YOUR PLAN TO BE CHOKED TO DEATH?
THE...THE MIST DIDN'T WORK...HE COULD HAVE KILLED ME...
I--
THE DESERT. AFRICA.

THE SAHAR...
WELL... THIS IS A SURPRISE.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE IMAGINED SOMEONE OF YOUR... STATURE SCRAMBLING AROUND FOR THE HOLY GRAIL WITH THE REST OF THE GANG...
...RA'S AL GHUL.
BAM RAKKA SHAKLA, ASTOR KERE--
NO, TALIA... HOLD.
...

YOU... YOU'RE NOT AS CLEVER AS THE DETECTIVE...
ARE YOU?
THE DETECTIVE WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN LED 'ROUND LIKE A DOG ON A LEASH, FEAR-BLIND TO CLUES WITHIN HIS GRASP--
NOR AS HANDSOME...

HOLD ON... JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE--
I AM THE ETERNAL. I AM PROGRESS. I AM ACTION... IMPERVIOUS TO FEAR, FAITH ...AND SUPERMEN."
DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT, NEXT TIME WE MEET...
...CAN.


YOUR PREY IS IN SPAIN. SHE FLED WHEN HER WILES DID NOT AFFECT FATHER.
IF YOU FIND HER, TELL HER SHE IS INDEBTED TO FATHER FOR ALLOWING HER TO LIVE...
BUT-- WAIT...
YOUR AUDIENCE WITH THE ETERNAL HAS ENDED.

FEAR-BLIND TO CLUES...
WHAT AM I MISSING HERE?

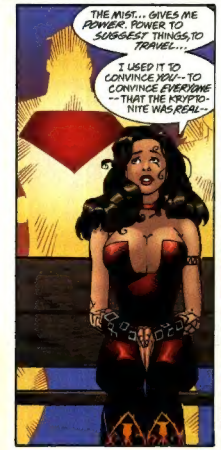
LA PLAZA DE SAN MIGUEL IN GIJON, NORTHERN SPAIN...
«OKAY...THIRTY MORE SECONDS, AND I'M VAPORS. SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO TAKE THIS MEET...»
«MXYZPTLK ISN'T EVEN A REAL NAME...HOW COULD HE HAVE A BANK ACCOUNT?»
«BESIDES...I DON'T WANT TO JUST BE SITTING AROUND WHEN MY MAN SHOWS--»
CAFE SAN MIGUEL
WHY SO GLUM...? NO ONE TO PLAY WITH? DON'T WORRY...
I BROUGHT FRIENDS.
OH GOD... ESTOY EN UN BUEN LIO...
IF THAT MEANS, "I'M IN BIG TROUBLE..."
YES... YES YOU ARE.

YOU... YOU BROUGHT THEM--?
ALL OF THEM.
ALL OF THEM.
YOU CALLED YOURSELF A BUSINESS WOMAN, 'DORA... WELL, YOUR CUSTOMERS WANT TO DISCUSS THE LIMITED WARRANTYSE ON THEIR INVESTMENT--
MEH... WELL, CERTAINLY, I'D BE HAPPY TO-- UM, LATER... I'M CLOSED FOR THE DAY...
YOU UNDERSTAND, ALL INWORK AND NO PLAY...? AHEM! SO LET'S ALL TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND--
SNUNT
ZWOOP
GOT YA.
WHAT WAS--
MY NECKLACE!! IT'S--
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
ALLOW ME TO CLEAR THINGS UP... PHOOSE.
BYEEEE
BYEEEE
BYEEEE
OH MY GOD.. HE SIDO ENGANADA..
I'VE BEEN CONNED, HAVEN'T I?

I PREFER TO CALL IT "CREATIVELY OUT-WITTED." HEAVEN KNOWS IT HAPPENED ENOUGH TIMES TO ME TODAY.
STINGS, DOESN'T IT?
LIKE BLOOD IN MY MOUTH. HOW DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT?
I ALMOST DIDN'T... I WAS SO BUSY TRYING TO COMPENSATE FOR MY WEAKNESS... THAT I NEVER LOOKED FOR YOURS.
FEAR HAD BLINDED ME TO YOUR TRICKS. ONCE I LET THAT GO, I COULD THINK AGAIN, PICK UP ON DROPPED CLUES... THEN, TO BE SURE...

I WHIPPED UP A LITTLE FEAR FACTORY OF MY OWN, FACED WITH A CROWD OF ANGRY CUSTOMERS --
--YOU BETRAYED YOURSELF--
AND WENT FOR THE MIST. POTENT STUFF... VERY POTENT.

KLIK
OH, BY THE WAY.. DR. SPECTRO SENDS HIS REGARDS FROM JAIL.


THE MIST... GIVES ME POWER. POWER TO SUGGEST THINGS, TO TRAVEL...
I USED IT TO CONVINCE YOU-- TO CONVINCE EVERYONE -- THAT THE KRYPTONITE WAS REAL--

AND THEN I'D SWOOP IN AND BEAT YOUR DUPES SENSELESS, LEAVING YOU TIME TO SNEAK AWAY WITH THEIR MONEY BEFORE THEY WERE ANY WISER...
A GOOD PLAN, NO?
PASSABLE ... BUT IT'S OVER NOW, FOR GOOD.
I HAD HEARD, SUPERMAN... THAT YOU HAD A STRENGTH OF WILL... A FOCUS THAT SET YOU APART FROM MOST MEN... BUT...

I... I'VE NEVER BELIEVED IN MEN, AS A RULE. SECRETLY, I HAD HOPED YOU WOULD LIVE UP TO THE LEGEND... AND YOU HAVE...
SOY TOYA... I'M YOURS... NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT ME... WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH ME...?
NOTHING AS EXOTIC AS YOU'RE THINKING... ALTHOUGH HANDCUFFS WILL BE INVOLVED.
OH, WELL THEN...

HMMM... VANILLA... NICE.
WHY.. WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

I TOLD YOU THAT YOU COULD HAVE MY KRYPTONITE FOR A KISS...
I MAY BE A GOK, BUT ONLY WITH THE MARKS ...I'M ALWAYS STRAIGHT WITH REAL MEN.
CONSIDER IT A SHOW OF GOOD FAITH...

...AT THE BEGINNING OF A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP, DARLING.
YOU THINK SO...?
OH, BABY.. I KNOW SO.
AND THE BATTLE CONTINUES...

RE: ACTION

Going Into ACTION:

The dust is settling, and all that's left to do for the Super-titles this month is welcome writer Joe Kelly and penciller German Garcia to these pages as Stuart Immonen moves over to ADVENTURES. Joe is best known for Marvel's humorous Deadpool. *German has done some* X-Men *fill-ins. With what we have coming up in the following months, you'll all know them very well for their work on Superman.*

Joe isn't just about funny stuff; he's a writer who makes his characters very real, and German is about making them further come to life on the page. They're a team that will add a lot to the never-ending battle!

—Eddie Berganza
S-Editor

Dear Re:Action (re ACTION #754):

It's great seeing Big Blue have good dreams again. He's probably been stressed by dreaming of train wrecks and mudslides (and the whole "save-the-entire-world" thing, too).

One great thing about ACTION #754 besides the art (the cover art, especially) was finding out that another major bad guy has ties with Krypton. Let's see...the Eradicator, Doomsday and now Dominus. Who's next—maybe the Contessa? No, she's too weak.

STEPHEN EZELL
JACKSONVILLE, FL

P.S. Please include my address so I can get letters from other Super-fans.

You got it, Stephen, and you can all discuss how "weak" the Contessa is after Stuart's SUPERMAN: END OF THE CENTURY hardcover and upcoming issues of SUPERBOY! You can also tell 'em what a Baldy award looks like, cuz you're this month's recipient! Enjoy!

Dear Re:Action (re ACTION #754):

Remember when Superman promised that he'd free the people of Kandor? Remember when you writers destroyed Superman's Fortress? Did Kandor survive? Because if it didn't, then that's bad storytelling. Please establish that the bottle city survived, and have Superman make his robots rebuild his Fortress. He needs it.

Thank you for giving us Dominus's origin. He is one *cool* villain, and I'm excited to see how Superman will defeat him this time. Please don't destroy all of the Superman robots, because you guys can make great stories if you let them stick around. Also bring back Scorn and Ashbury; I miss them. And please let Lucy Lane have a girl.

NICHOLAS CLEMENT
(CLEMENT@THEOFFICENET.COM)
VALLEY, WA

We'll work on Scorn, Ashbury and Lucy, Nicholas, and perhaps we'll even have an answer about Kandor in the future. For now, though, just enjoy the Fortress's return and...What's that, Eddie? It ***is****? He* ***didn't****! He* ***did****? Oh.*

Um, Super-Editor Eddie Berganza recommends you check out last week's MAN OF STEEL #95. Take a deep breath first, though. Then check out MAN OF STEEL #96.

—Mike McAvennie
Bad-news bearer.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

NEXT WEEK: Between the son of deceased enemy Mongul and an Aquaman cameo, Jeph Loeb, Mike McKone and Marlo Alquiza may have Big Blue sleep with the fishes in SUPERMAN #152!

IN TWO WEEKS: When Stuart Immonen and Mark Millar, Joe Phillips and Rich Faber ask "Who is Mrs. Superman?" in ADVENTURES #574, will Obsession have the answer?

IN THREE WEEKS: The Fortress makes its mark in Clark and Lois's apartment, so Mark Schultz, Doug Mahnke and Tom Nguyen enlist the JLA to help Superman (and Nicholas Clement) in MAN OF STEEL #96!

IN FOUR WEEKS: While the "Mrs. Superman" fiasco escalates, Wonder Woman and Superman are exiled to Valhalla for a thousand years! Joe Kelly, German Garcia and Joe Rubinstein give us plenty of ACTION #761!

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KEYWORD: DC COMICS ON AOL

Superman's unleashed on this month's breakthrough cover by Phil Jimenez and Liquid! Run!

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CAUGHT SCANNING YET ANOTHER FUN COMIC!